

CURRENT NEWS.

GENERAL.

The Legislatures of New York, Ohio and Minnesota met on the 2d.

A general advance in through passenger rates was made by the trunk lines of railway on the 2d. The new rate is—New York to Chicago, \$18; to Indianapolis, \$17; to Cincinnati, \$16; to St. Louis, \$23.

The public debt statement for January 1 shows an increase during the preceding month of \$3,585,742. The total debt, less \$180,001,278 cash in Treasury, was \$2,089,836,090.

The trunk lines of railway on the 1st advanced the rates on grain from Chicago to New York to 35 cents per bushel—an advance of 5 cents per bushel.

The Statistician of the Department of Agriculture, in his December report, makes the corn crop only two per cent short of the great crop of last year, and 50 per cent greater than the crop of 1874. The aggregate, subject to future revision, is 1,295,000,000 bushels. Less than one per cent of the crop is raised in New England, scarcely six per cent in the Middle States, 20 in the Southern, 44 in the Ohio basin, and 29 west of the Mississippi.

The product of the South is 10,000,000 bushels greater than that of last year; that of New England 300,000 bushels greater, and there is less in the Middle and Western States. The average price of corn per bushel is highest in Massachusetts, and lowest in Kansas, 95 and 23 cents respectively.

The bill to establish the Territory of Huron, which passed the Senate last week, proposes to create the new Territory out of the northern part of the present Territory of Dakota. The present Territory of Dakota contains 150,982 square miles, and the new Territory would have an area of about 70,000 square miles. It is to be parallelogram, extending from Minnesota on the east, something less than 400 miles to Montana on the west, and from the British Possessions on the north 200 miles to the boundary of the remaining territory on the south. Its population is estimated at about 10,000. It is said that one of the best farming regions in the United States lies in the proposed new Territory.

President Grant, on the 31st, granted another interview to a press reporter, the substance of which, as published, is as follows: The President believes that the existing Republican State Governments of South Carolina, Louisiana and Florida will not be disturbed, except in the event of Mr. Tilden's accession to the Presidential chair, in which event he is of opinion that neither of them could stand 24 hours. In regard to Louisiana, he stated that the orders issued to the military commandant in 1872 had not been modified in any particular, and that the United States troops would be used there, if necessary, to protect life and property and to preserve the peace. He believed that the Presidential Electors in the three States named had been legally elected and duly returned. He thought the action of the Louisiana Returning Board was final and that there could be no appeal from its decision; but he added to the fact that the electoral vote of that State had not been counted since 1869.

In regard to the counting of the electoral votes by Congress, he believed that the law and precedents gave to the President of the Senate the power to open and count the votes, but that precedents also established the right of either House to object to the counting. In case either House should see fit to object to the counting of the votes from any State, it would be difficult to say where it might end, and he very much feared that no final decision would be arrived at before the 4th of March, when the present Executive term ended; in which case, in his opinion, the President of the Senate would become Acting President, while the present Cabinet officers (except the Postmaster-General, whose term of office is limited by the law,) would continue until their successors were appointed. In conclusion, he reiterated his belief that the States of Arkansas, Alabama and Mississippi would have gone Republican by large majorities if the elections there had been fair, free and peaceable.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections on the 29th commenced taking testimony in regard to the disputed Oregon Elector. On the 30th the committee adjourned until the 3d.

Judge Duell, Commissioner of Patents, has resigned.

The Democratic certificates of the Presidential Electors in Louisiana and South Carolina were delivered to Senator Ferry on the 2d. No receipts were given.

Mr. D. L. Moody has published a card, requesting that penny collections be taken up in every Sunday-school in this country on Sunday, Jan. 14, for the benefit of the two orphan sons of Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Bliss, who were killed in the Ashtabula disaster. Chicago has already raised a fund of \$10,000 for that purpose.

Mr. William A. Wheeler, in a recent interview with a New York Herald correspondent, expressed his opinion that Congress has no right to go behind the returns, further than to ascertain the regularity of the certificates; that the action of the Louisiana Returning Board is conclusive and final as to the result in that State, and that had a fair election been held there the Republicans would have carried the State by 15,000 majority. He further expressed himself as opposed to any trade or compromise, and says the question should be settled according to the spirit of the law.

The Legislatures of Illinois, Missouri and Michigan convened on the 3d.

The New York Chamber of Commerce has adopted a report urging that silver coin be made the standard legal tender throughout the United States.

The Indiana Legislature organized on the 4th.

Senator Windom has been renominated by the Minnesota Republicans.

Senator Ferry has been renominated by the Michigan Republicans.

The Republican members of the General Assembly of Illinois, at a caucus held on the 2d, unanimously adopted a resolution declaring their belief in the election of Hayes and Wheeler, and insisting that they shall be peacefully inaugurated by the proper authorities of the Government.

EAST.

A cargo of munitions of war for the Turkish Government, valued at \$1,500,000, was shipped from this country on the 28th.

D. Davidson was killed in a public boxing encounter with P. J. McDermott, at Revere Hall, Boston, on the 28th. Several arrests were made.

Ex-Senator James W. Nye, of Nevada, died at the asylum at White Plains, N. Y., on the 25th.

An unusually horrible marine disaster occurred on the morning of the 30th, caused by the going to pieces of the ship Circassian on the bar off Bridgehampton, on the south shore of Long Island. The Circassian was grounded on the bar some days previously and abandoned by her crew. A wrecking crew was then placed on board for the purpose of drawing her off. On the night of the 29th there was a heavy gale, which increased in severity, until by morning the waves broke clear over the vessel and the crew were compelled to take to the rigging. Signals of distress were given and responded to by the life-saving crew on shore, but all attempts to launch a boat proved unavailing, the heavy sea driving it high and dry upon the beach; nor were the efforts to throw a line over the vessel by means of a mortar any more successful. Finally, at about half past 4 in the morning, the masts, which were of iron, gave way and went over the side, carrying with them to the bottom 28 men who had lashed themselves to the rigging. Four of the crew, who had managed to unloose their fastenings, succeeded in reaching the shore in an exhausted condition.

David Dudley Field, who was nominated for Congress by the Democrats of the Seventh New York District, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Smith Ely, resigned, has been elected.

Peter B. Sweeney, one of the exiled members of the Tammany Ring, has been promised immunity from arrest, and will return to New York and give evidence in the suits now pending.

Commodore Vanderbilt died on the 4th, after an illness of several months' duration, at his residence in New York City. His death had little or no effect on the stock market, having been so long expected. It is estimated by those in a position to judge, that Commodore Vanderbilt was owner of securities having a present market value of about \$85,000,000, and that of this total \$55,000,000 consisted of stock and bonds of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad. It is understood that the bulk of the vast property is to be kept together, and that provision has been made for reinvesting the accruing interest on it in his favorite securities.

Samuel S. Bigler, late President of the City Bank of Harrisburgh, Pa., which suspended several months ago, and his two sons, one the ex-Cashier, have been arrested on charges of conspiracy to defraud, embezzlement, and of obtaining money under false pretenses. The bank failed with liabilities aggregating \$350,000, while the assets will not exceed more than \$70,000. Over 1,400 persons, most of them of the poorer classes, had deposits in the institution, of which they will realize not more than 10 or 15 cents on the dollar.

The Maine Republicans have nominated Hon. Jas. G. Blaine for both the short and long Senatorial terms, the nominations being unanimously made by acclamation amidst the greatest enthusiasm.

WEST AND SOUTH.

By the bursting of an immense beer cask in Finlay's brewery, Toledo, O., on the 28th, John Bonke was instantly killed and another employee probably fatally injured.

Capt. Eads telegraphed from the Jettes, on the 29th, that he had secured the requisite depth and width through the channel—20 feet deep and 200 feet wide—to entitle him to the first installment of pay from the Government.

Another terrible railway accident occurred on the Michigan Southern and Lake Shore Railroad, near Ashtabula, Ohio, on the evening of the 29th. The Pacific Express train, comprising six coaches and two drawing-room cars, drawn by two locomotives, left Erie for Cleveland one hour late. About 8 p. m. the train reached the bridge over Ashtabula Creek, and, in passing over, the bridge gave way, precipitating the whole train, with the exception of one locomotive, to the frozen bed of the stream, 75 feet below. The cars were completely smashed in pieces; the ice was broken and portions of the train submerged, while the remainder of the wreck took fire and burned. The night was intensely cold; the sufferings of the wounded were terrible, while it was almost impossible during the night to recover the dead and rescue the dying, who were fatally bruised, burned, or drowned. About 60 of the wounded managed to escape from the wreck, and were removed to Ashtabula, where they were tenderly cared for. It was believed that from 75 to 100 lives were lost, but at the hour this dispatch was forwarded it was impossible to give any positive information.

Capt. C. H. Tyler, of St. Louis, one of the survivors of the Ashtabula disaster, gives the following estimate of the fatalities resulting therefrom: He thinks there were at least 200 persons on the train at the time of the accident. Of these, 100 were killed in the fatal plunge, 95 were more or less injured, and 5 escaped unhurt. Of the 95 wounded, 40, and all the dead, burned with the wreck, making a total loss of killed and burned of 140. Of the 60 saved, 55 are reported slightly wounded. The cause of this is that no one could be taken from the mass of the debris, and only those able to extricate themselves got out. It has been stated that many were frozen to death, but this he believes to be a mistake, as the entire wreck was a solid sheet of flame within 30 minutes from the time it reached the ground.

Among the victims of the Ashtabula disaster was Mr. P. P. Bliss, the well known evangelist, together with his wife.

Judge Albert H. Horton, of Atchison, has been appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kansas, vice Judge Klingman, resigned.

Hon. Stanley Matthews will contest the election of Gen. Banning as Representative in Congress from the Second Ohio District.

On Christmas day a party of four men were attacked by Indians within 16 miles of Red Cloud Agency. Two were killed and two wounded. The latter succeeded in reaching Red Cloud.

Seven young men were drowned in the Ohio River; Augusta, Ky., on the 29th.

The Omaha and Republican Valley Railroad was completed to Wahoo, Saunders County, Neb., a distance of 54 miles from Omaha, on the 29th, and the completion of the road is to be diligently pushed forward.

At Cincinnati, on the 2d, Chris. Kaltmeyer, a butcher, stabbed his wife with a knife used for disemboweling hogs, and

then stabbed himself three times, the last thrust piercing his heart. The doctors said the woman might possibly recover. She had begun a suit for divorce against her husband, and her refusal to discontinue the proceedings was the cause of the terrible tragedy.

Gen. Crook's command disbanded at Fort Fetterman on the 29th ult., the severity of the weather and the scattering of the hostilities having rendered it useless to attempt any further campaigning this season. Crazy Horse and band are believed to be on the Little Missouri. Gen. Crook expresses the opinion that the hostilities are so badly demoralized that it will be an easy matter to subdue them entirely next season.

The crazy wife of Henry Creighton, of Bloom Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, on the 2d, murdered her husband, shooting him twice and then entirely severing his head with an ax. They had been four years married.

John McCall, the murderer of "Wild Bill" at Yankton, D. T., has been sentenced to be hanged on March 1. An appeal will be taken by this counsel, on the ground that he was intoxicated and irresponsible.

All the ordnance has recently been transferred from the St. Louis Arsenal to the Rock Island Arsenal and elsewhere. Eight hundred pieces of artillery were shipped to the East.

FOREIGN.

It is reported that President Lerdo and the members of his Cabinet have left Mexico and are now en route to San Francisco.

The Turkish Conference has decided to prolong the armistice to March 1st. A peaceful solution of the pending question is anticipated.

The engineers on the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada struck on the 29th, causing a complete suspension of business.

The strike of the locomotive engineers on the Grand Trunk Railroad ended on the 2d, all the members of the Brotherhood resuming their old positions. It is understood that concessions were made on both sides.

CONGRESS.

The Senate was not in session on the 28th. The House met, but, without transacting any business of importance, adjourned.

In the Senate, on the 29th, the Chair presented a telegram from Gen. Logan, in Chicago, stating he would not be able to return to Washington in time to act as a member of the special committee to devise means for the count of the Electoral vote, etc., and asking to be dismissed from further service as a member of the committee. No objection being made, Mr. Logan was excused and Mr. Conkling appointed on the committee to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Gordon presented the memorial of Wm. H. Wadsworth, a sixty-eight year old Senator and Representative in the General Assembly of South Carolina, addressed to Congress, requesting recognition of the military interference in that State, and asking Congress to take such action as will cause a cessation of military interference in the affairs of the State and enable the Governor and the Legislature to exercise the duties of the offices to which they were elected. The memorial having been read, Mr. Gordon moved that it be referred to the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Frelinghuysen moved to amend so as to refer it to the Committee on Privileges and Elections instead of the Judiciary Committee. Pending discussion on Mr. Gordon, by unanimous consent, the committee recognizing the Government of South Carolina, but objection was made to it by Mr. Morton and others and it was laid over. The question being on the amendment, Mr. Frelinghuysen, 12 Senators voted in the affirmative and 13 in the negative, no quorum, so the Senate adjourned until Tuesday next, in accordance with an order previously adopted.

The House was not in session.

The Senate was not in session on the 30th. The House met, but immediately adjourned to Wednesday, owing to the want of a quorum.

The Senate met on the 2d, but adjourned for want of a quorum. No session of the House.

In the Senate, on the 3d, Mr. Morton, from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, submitted a report that Wm. M. Turner, manager of the Western Union Telegraph office at Jacksonville, Oregon, refused to answer certain questions put to him, on the ground that he could not divulge the business of the company; also a resolution declaring that Turner is in duty bound to answer questions, and can not refuse to do so by virtue of his official connection with the company. On the 4th, the committee gave notice that he would call the resolution up for action to-morrow. In the House, Mr. Knott, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, presented the report of the committee on the memorial of James B. Belford as Representative from Colorado, with a resolution declaring Colorado a State of the Union, and Belford a minor admitted. Mr. Hurd presented a minority report which recommends the passage of an act of Congress admitting Colorado. Reports recommitted.

In the Senate, on the 4th, Mr. Wright's bill to establish a court for the trial of contested elections in the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States was referred to the Special Committee to devise means for counting the Electoral vote. The Senate adjourned at an early hour, on account of want of quorum. In the House, Mr. Bland presented a bill making the duties of Brownsville and Galveston, Texas, ports to which unappraised merchandise may be imported.

THE DISPUTED STATES.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

A Columbia dispatch of the 29th says that the compilation of the vote in South Carolina, as made by the accountants employed by the House Committee, gives Hampton and the other Democratic State officers majorities ranging from 1,100 downward, and the Hayes Electors an average majority of about 600.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed by Gen. Hampton to Gov. Hayes. A letter of similar purport was likewise addressed to Gov. Tilden:

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 28, 1875.—My Dear Sir: I have the honor to enclose a copy of my inaugural as the duly elected Governor of South Carolina. In view of current events and the official sanction given to gross misrepresentations of the acts and purposes of the majority of the good people of this Commonwealth, I deem it proper to declare that I have no faith in the justice of their cause, and that the course of judicial proceedings, obstructed by no combination of citizens thereof, and that the laws for the protection of the inhabitants in all the rights of person, property and citizenship, are being enforced in our courts, while the people of the State are not waiting in the spirit of the means to maintain their rights of citizenship against the usurped power which now defies the supreme judicial authority of the State; they have such faith in the justice of their cause that they propose to leave its vindication to the proper legal tribunals, appealing at the same time to the patriotism and public sentiment of the whole country. The inflammatory utterances of a portion of the public press render it perhaps not inopportune for me to state that, although a people in South Carolina view with grave concern a number of witnesses in the affairs of our country which threatens to subject to an extreme test the Republican system of government, and that their firm and deliberate purpose is to condemn any solution of the existing political problem of the United States the exhibition of armed force, or the use of violence, or the use of the prescribed forms of the Constitution, or the peaceful agencies of law. Trusting that the peace of the country, and the maintenance of the constitutional safeguards of popular rights,

and will tend still more firmly to unite the people of all the States in an earnest effort to preserve the peace, and to sustain the laws and the Constitution, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed) WADE HAMPTON, Governor of South Carolina.

To His Excellency R. B. Hayes, Governor of Ohio.

As the settlement of the vexed political questions which now agitate the public mind must ultimately depend on yourself, or upon the will of the majority of the people, I have addressed a letter similar to this to His Excellency, Governor Tilden. Yours,

WADE HAMPTON.

Gov. Hampton issued an address, on the 2d, calling upon the citizens to come forward promptly and pay 10 per cent. of the amount of taxes paid by them last year.

The House Committee to investigate South Carolina election matters returned to Washington on the 4th. Several members of the committee say they do not apprehend an armed collision between the two parties, and think ultimately there will be a peaceful accommodation.

LOUISIANA.

The Democratic State Senators holding over, and Clerk Trezevant, of the House, called on Governor Kellogg on the 28th and protested against the barricading of the State-house, and demanded the removal of the barricades, which the Governor, declined to do. He further informed Clerk Trezevant that a list of the legally elected members of the House would be furnished him by the Secretary of State, and that it was his duty to call the names as they appear upon such list.

The Louisiana Legislature met and organized on the 1st. The Democratic members, accompanied by about 600 persons, went to the State-house at noon and demanded admission. The officer on duty said that the members could enter, but the crowd could not. A demand was then made by Trezevant, Clerk of the House, that all the barricades, policemen, etc., be removed, which being refused, a formal protest was read and a copy served upon Gov. Kellogg, who replied that he believed the precautions taken by him necessary to preserve the peace, and that no member or attaché of either House would be refused admittance. Clerk Trezevant then informed the Governor that, unless the barricades, etc., were removed, he would decline to call the roll, whereupon, the hour for organization having arrived, Louis Sauer was empowered to call the roll, and 68 members answered to their names, 59 being a quorum. The Senate organized with 19 members—more than a quorum.

The Governor's message was received and read. The Democratic members, having withdrawn, organized in St. Patrick's Hall. The Senate organized with 19 members, and the House with 61 members, Trezevant, the regular Clerk, having called the roll. A committee was appointed to wait upon Gov. Kellogg and inform him that the House of Representatives was organized at St. Patrick's Hall, and to enter a protest against their exclusion from the State-house. Gov. Kellogg refused to receive any official communication from them, but replied personally that no members of the Legislature were debarred from entering the State-house at any time.

On the 2d, the Republican Legislature declared the election of Packard as Governor and the Democratic Legislature declared the election of Nichols. One member of the Democratic House deserted and reported at the State-house.

The Republican Legislature, on the 4th, passed a bill forbidding the organization of military companies other than militia; a bill appropriating \$300,000 for militia purposes; also, a resolution declaring vacant the seats of all members who do not present themselves before Jan. 6, and ordering a new election to fill such vacancies.

The President of the Citizens' Committee informed the Democratic Legislature that he would honor all drafts duly drawn by its officers, to the extent of funds in his hands.

FLORIDA.

Governor Drew, Democrat, was inaugurated on the 2d. The oath of office was administered by Chief-Justice Randall. Gov. Stearns did not take part in the inaugural ceremonies, but many Republicans, including the retiring State officers, were present. Gov. Drew's inaugural address was short and very conciliatory, promising full protection to the colored race and guaranteeing to them all their rights under the law. The Legislature was organized and is Democratic in both branches.

CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATIONS.

Louisiana.

THE SENATE COMMITTEE.

On the 26th, Senators Wadleigh, McMillan and McDonald were appointed a sub-committee to take testimony of Eliza Pinkston. Col. J. W. Patton, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, was called by request of Senator McDonald, to rebut certain evidence in reference to a circular issued by him during the campaign. Col. Patton testified that the circular in question was correctly printed in Senator Sherman's report, but that the italics there given, with the exception of the one word, *horsecock*, were not in the original; the original was headed "Circular," but it was scattered broadcast, and there was no intention of keeping its contents secret; the policy of the Democrats, as agreed upon at the commencement of the campaign by the State Committee, was to avoid all collisions with their political opponents, both upon human and moral grounds, and to protect the Democratic cause by the peaceful means of the ballot-box. Witness was asked by Senator Oglesby in reference to the organization of rifle clubs in Ouachita; stated that he knew nothing of them until after the election, and that the instructions issued by the committee early in the campaign were not carried out in the interior of the State. The examination and cross-examination of witness occupied six hours. Sam D. McNery, of Ouachita Parish, was next called and testified at length: A large number of prominent colored men acted with the Democrats and organized colored clubs; the so-called rifle-clubs had no connection with the political clubs and were for the purpose of preserving the peace and protecting Democratic negroes from outrages from their own race. Witness was examined at length in regard to the assassination of Dr. Pinkgrave, whom he had known since a boy; said that Pinkgrave had killed a man named Wimberly in 1871, and Wimberly's brother had threatened to avenge the murder; the general public in the neighborhood was that Dr. Pinkgrave was killed by this man, or by a man named Adams, who was a bitter enemy of Dr. Pinkgrave. Cross-examined, said he had never heard Adams or his friends make any threats against Dr. Pinkgrave.

The Senate Committee, on the 27th, continued the examination of Sam D. McNery. Upon cross-examination he stated that he had been a member of the Knights of the White Camelia, which was a secret and oath-bound society. The Senate sub-committee, composed of Senators Wadleigh, McMillan and McGowan, examined a number of witnesses as to the condition of affairs in East Baton Rouge Parish. Alexander S. Gilbert, colored, testified on the night of September 5 that he and two colored men escaped to the fields; they put a rope around my neck; broke my arm and tore down the fence; witness further testified as to the killing of Paul Jones, Tom R. Payne, and the two Myers, all colored; also, to numerous specific cases of building and burning of houses, and the destruction of property, effect of these acts was to prevent colored people from attending Republican meetings and voting that ticket. Alice Gilbert, wife of Alexander, corroborated his testimony as to a person who was killed by the bulldozers; the men were disguised; knew some of them, but declined to give their names as she had property there and could not go back if she did. Benjamin Morgan, colored, Coroner of Baton Rouge, testified that he had held many inquests on murdered men since Jan. 1, and was finally notified by the Legislature to stop holding inquests, and held no more; on the morning of the 15th of May was called to hold an inquest on the bodies of old man Jerry Meyers and son Sampson Meyers; the old man was hung and the young man was shot; both were industrious men, and leading Republicans; never heard any other reason for their murder. Sophia Payne, colored, testified that in June last her husband, Thomas H. Payne, who was a prominent Republican, was dragged off with a rope around his neck by a body of white men and killed; gave the names of some of the men engaged in the affair.

Before the Senate Committee, on the 28th, a number of witnesses, both white and colored, testified as to the general peacefulness of the election in Ouachita. B. A. Shelby testified that two of the men charged by Eliza Pinkston with the murder of her husband, Eliza Pinkston, said he had long since come to the conclusion that nothing that Eliza said was to be believed merely because she said so; therefore, there was no use in her testimony. The sub-committee received the evidence of a number of witnesses in regard to the building of negroes in East Baton Rouge, French Carter, colored, swore he saw four men hanging at Mount Pleasant, East Baton Rouge, two on a gate post and two on a quarter pole; the three other colored witnesses testified to a reign of terror in that parish, and that they had been driven from their homes and dared not return.

The Senate Committee, on the 30th, heard the evidence of nine colored men in reference to Ouachita, who substantiated the testimony already published in reference to the reign of terror there and the forcing of colored men to vote the Democratic ticket. Thomas McAlpine, colored, testified that he was a Republican, and that he had been intimidated by the Democrats in the election. Adjourned till Tuesday.

Before the Senate Committee, on the 2d, a number of Democratic witnesses testified as to the fair and peaceable character of the canvass. Chas. Tidwell, the former owner of Pinkston, testified that Pinkston was a Republican in politics. The Senate sub-committee heard testimony in regard to the murder of John Gair and Paul Johnson, both colored Republicans, the particulars of which are given in Senator Sherman's report.

The Senate Committee, on the 3d, continued the investigation of Ouachita Parish. John Pinkgrave said on his oath that he believed his cousin, Dr. Pinkgrave, was killed by the Democrats; never heard him express any fears of the Wimberlys or Adams, and did not believe that either of them killed him. The Senate sub-committee examined several witnesses, principally colored, who detailed numerous cases of violence and intimidation in the election in Louisiana, most of which have already been published, showing a reign of terror among the blacks there.

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Before the Senate Committee, on the 27th, Rev. Thomas Brown, colored, testified: Was President of a Democratic club; was knocked down and was not permitted to preach because he was a Democrat; lost \$1,000 by the Freedmen's Bank; used that argument in his speeches. Col. Patton testified that the circular in question was correctly printed in Senator Sherman's report, but that the italics there given, with the exception of the one word, *horsecock*, were not in the original; the original was headed "Circular," but it was scattered broadcast, and there was no intention of keeping its contents secret; the policy of the Democrats, as agreed upon at the commencement of the campaign by the State Committee, was to avoid all collisions with their political opponents, both upon human and moral grounds, and to protect the Democratic cause by the peaceful means of the ballot-box. Witness was asked by Senator Oglesby in reference to the organization of rifle clubs in Ouachita; stated that he knew nothing of them until after the election, and that the instructions issued by the committee early in the campaign were not carried out in the interior of the State. The examination and cross-examination of witness occupied six hours. Sam D. McNery, of Ouachita Parish, was next called and testified at length: A large number of prominent colored men acted with the Democrats and organized colored clubs; the so-called rifle-clubs had no connection with the political clubs and were for the purpose of preserving the peace and protecting Democratic negroes from outrages from their own race. Witness was examined at length in regard to the assassination of Dr. Pinkgrave, whom he had known since a boy; said that Pinkgrave had killed a man named Wimberly in 1871, and Wimberly's brother had threatened to avenge the murder; the general public in the neighborhood was that Dr. Pinkgrave was killed by this man, or by a man named Adams, who was a bitter enemy of Dr. Pinkgrave. Cross-examined, said he had never heard Adams or his friends make any threats against Dr. Pinkgrave.

The Senate Committee, on the 27th, continued the examination of Sam D. McNery. Upon cross-examination he stated that he had been a member of the Knights of the White Camelia, which was a secret and oath-bound society. The Senate sub-committee, composed of Senators Wadleigh, McMillan and McGowan, examined a number of witnesses as to the condition of affairs in East Baton Rouge Parish. Alexander S. Gilbert, colored, testified on the night of September 5 that he and two colored men escaped to the fields; they put a rope around my neck; broke my arm and tore down the fence; witness further testified as to the killing of Paul Jones, Tom R. Payne, and the two Myers, all colored; also, to numerous specific cases of building and burning of houses, and the destruction of property, effect of these acts was to prevent colored people from attending Republican meetings and voting that ticket. Alice Gilbert, wife of Alexander, corroborated his testimony as to a person who was killed by the bulldozers; the men were disguised; knew some of them, but declined to give their names as she had property there and could not go back if she did. Benjamin Morgan, colored, Coroner of Baton Rouge, testified that he had held many inquests on murdered men since Jan. 1, and was finally notified by the Legislature to stop holding inquests, and held no more; on the morning of the 15th of May was called to hold an inquest on the bodies of old man Jerry Meyers and son Sampson Meyers; the old man was hung and the young man was shot; both were industrious men, and leading Republicans; never heard any other reason for their murder. Sophia Payne, colored, testified that in June last her husband, Thomas H. Payne, who was a prominent Republican, was dragged off with a rope around his neck by a body of white men and killed; gave the names of some of the men engaged in the affair.

Before the Senate Committee, on the 28th, a number of witnesses, both white and colored, testified as to the general peacefulness of the election in Ouachita. B. A. Shelby testified that two of the men charged by Eliza Pinkston with the murder of her husband, Eliza Pinkston, said he had long since come to the conclusion that nothing that Eliza said was to be believed merely because she said so; therefore, there was no use in her testimony. The sub-committee received the evidence of a number of witnesses in regard to the building of negroes in East Baton Rouge, French Carter, colored, swore he saw four men hanging at Mount Pleasant, East Baton Rouge, two on a gate post and two on a quarter pole; the three other colored witnesses testified to a reign of terror in that parish, and that they had been driven from their homes and dared not return.

The Senate Committee, on the 30th, heard the evidence of nine colored men in reference to Ouachita, who substantiated the testimony already published in reference to the reign of terror there and the forcing of colored men to vote the Democratic ticket. Thomas McAlpine, colored, testified that he was a Republican, and that he had been intimidated by the Democrats in the election. Adjourned till Tuesday.

Before the Senate Committee, on the 2d, a number of Democratic witnesses testified as to the fair and peaceable character of the canvass. Chas. Tidwell, the former owner of Pinkston, testified that Pinkston was a Republican in politics. The Senate sub-committee heard testimony in regard to the murder of John Gair and Paul Johnson, both colored Republicans, the particulars of which are given in Senator Sherman's report.

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